

REMARKS

The accompanying Request for Continued Examination is filed to further prosecution of this application and to enter the amendments in this Submission, which it is believed place the claims in condition for allowance. Entry of these amendments is requested. These papers are filed in response to the Office Action of January 13, 2005. Reconsideration and further examination of the application are requested.

The claims were previously rejected by the Examiner over the patent to Wattenberg (U.S. Patent No. 6,583,794), which describes a tree map display system. Applicants have noted that Wattenberg cannot change the attributes with which the tree map display is associated. The claims as amended recite an additional distinction over the Wattenberg patent: the disclosed invention involves a host process through which the user initiates operation and also involves a display process, which produces the tree map display with the novel functionality recited in the claims. All of the independent claims includes limitations such as those in claim 1, which recites:

... executing a host process that receives receiving user criteria that specifies a subset of the data with respect to multiple data criteria;...

and

... executing a display process for displaying the data subset in a display ...

The host process, for example, is described in the drawings as a Web browser (Figure 1). The display process is described as a Java applet (Figure 1 and accompanying text). Thus, two separate processes are executed to produce the display features that are recited in the other limitations of the independent claims. The operation of the claimed host process and display process are described in greater detail in the specification at pages 23-27, in conjunction with Figures 4 and 5.

Wattenberg says nothing about providing its display through such multiple processes. The Wattenberg system has no need for such multiple processes, because Wattenberg cannot provide the more sophisticated display manipulation features of the claims (such as changed data criteria for subfield areas and changing attributes with which areas are associated). Wattenberg is limited to simple color changes and the like. Color change, for example, can be provided by the computer operating system.

In contrast, the disclosure of the present invention describes a host process such as a Web browser that receives user input, as well as a display process such as a Java applet that produces the actual tree map display and reconfigures the display as needed (see page 25, line 3 through page 26, line 3).

It is respectfully submitted that neither Wattenberg nor any other art of record can provide the recited elements, and none can provide the display functionality and manipulation as recited in the amended claims.

In view of the claim amendments and the discussion presented above, it is submitted that all of the pending claims (Claims 1-59) are patentable.

Respectfully submitted,
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